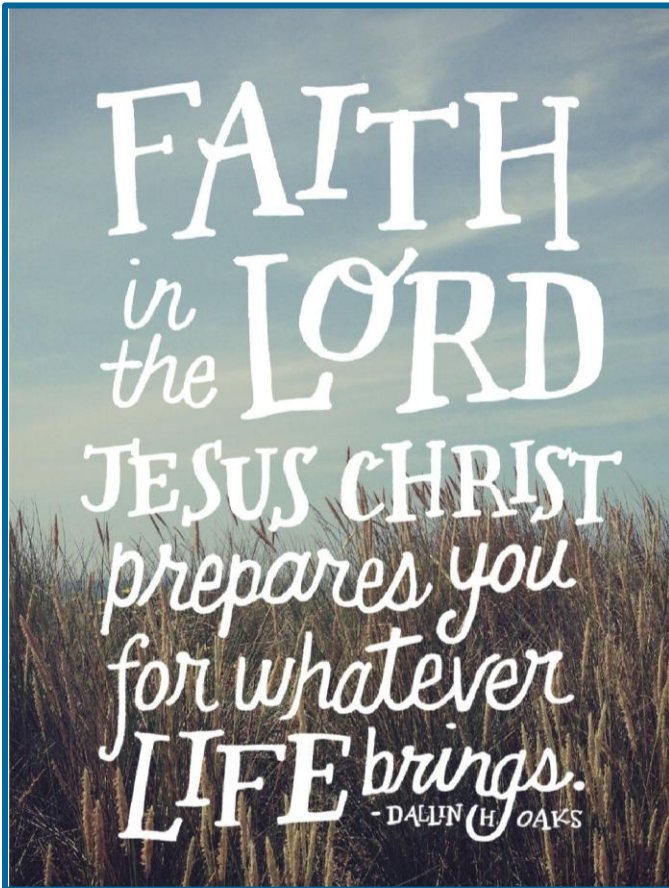


First Presbyterian Church
Salem, Ohio

June 28, 2026

10:30 a.m.

5th Sunday after Pentecost



Worship will be live streamed on
Facebook: First Presbyterian Church of Salem, Ohio,
You Tube: www.youtube.com/FPCSALEM; and
our website, www.fpcsaalem.org.

"We are centered in Christ and powered by love."

WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

*Please stand if you are able.

PRELUDE

Adagio

Softly and Tenderly

Felix Mendelssohn

Will L. Thompson

*Let us silently turn our hearts, minds, and bodies
to the worship of God as the light of Christ
is brought forward.*

PRELUDE

Andante

Alexander Guilmant

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please take a moment to sign and pass the Attendance Pad.

*CALL TO WORSHIP (*Responsively*)

This is the day that the Lord has made;

let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Your love, O Lord, forever we will sing.

From age to age, we will proclaim your faithfulness.

*HYMN 379

My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

*INVITATION TO CONFESSION

God invites us to draw close to him and speak to him like our neighbor. But sin and shame tell us to stay away from God. Let us leave our sin and shame at God's feet, trusting Him to be merciful and loving. Join me as we pray together, saying,

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*Unison*)

Merciful Lord, we confess to how easily we lose hope. You promise us your yoke is easy, but we carry it heavily. We treat our callings as burdens, not gifts. Lighten our loads; lighten our hearts. Teach us to rejoice in you, and to trust always in your

steadfast, powerful, and unwavering love. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

(Moments of Silent Prayer)

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Jesus calls us friends, not slaves or students but friends. He longs to walk through life with us, to lift us when we fall and encourage us when we tire.

We have confessed our brokenness and now accept the mercy gifted to us through Christ.

We do not walk alone in this life.

But hand in hand with God.

***GLORIA PATRI** (*Unison; Hymn 579*)

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen. Amen.

THE WORD OF GOD AMONG US

THE PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (*Unison*)

Eternal God, Your word is the sword of the Holy Spirit, cutting through lies, telling Your truth, revealing Your will. Strengthen our faith; deepen our love; order our priorities so that we can more closely follow our Lord, Jesus Christ. Amen.

THE FIRST READING

Genesis 22:1-14

¹After these things God tested Abraham. He said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." ²He said, "Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains that I shall show you." ³So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him and his son Isaac; he cut the wood for the burnt offering and set out and went to the place in the distance that God had shown

him. ⁴ On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place far away. ⁵ Then Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the donkey; the boy and I will go over there; we will worship, and then we will come back to you." ⁶ Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on his son Isaac, and he himself carried the fire and the knife. And the two of them walked on together. ⁷ Isaac said to his father Abraham, "Father!" And he said, "Here I am, my son." He said, "The fire and the wood are here, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?" ⁸ Abraham said, "God himself will provide the lamb for a burnt offering, my son." And the two of them walked on together.

⁹ When they came to the place that God had shown him, Abraham built an altar there and laid the wood in order. He bound his son Isaac and laid him on the altar on top of the wood. ¹⁰ Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to kill his son. ¹¹ But the angel of the LORD called to him from heaven and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." ¹² He said, "Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him, for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me." ¹³ And Abraham looked up and saw a ram, caught in a thicket by its horns. Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. ¹⁴ So Abraham called that place "The LORD will provide," as it is said to this day, "On the mount of the LORD it shall be provided."

This is the Word of the LORD!

Thanks be to God!

SPECIAL MUSIC

Jan Cox, Piano / John Krauss, Tuba

Poor Wayfaring Stranger

Arr. Roger House

THE GOSPEL READING

John 16:20-22

²⁰ Very truly, I tell you, you will weep and mourn, but the world will rejoice; you will have pain, but your pain will turn into joy.

²¹ When a woman is in labor, she has pain, because her hour has come. But when her child is born, she no longer remembers the

anguish because of the joy of having brought a human being into the world. ²² So you have pain now; but I will see you again, and your hearts will rejoice, and no one will take your joy from you.

This is the Gospel of the LORD!
Praise to you, O Christ!

SERMON

“How Much Does Faith Cost?”
Ruling Elder Sam Ewing

WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD IN OUR LIVES

*HYMN 488

The God of Abraham Praise

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*Unison; The Book of Order, F-1.0304*)

These are the great ends of the church of Jesus Christ:

The proclamation of the gospel

for the salvation of humankind;

**the shelter, nurture, and spiritual fellowship
of the children of God;**

the maintenance of divine worship;

the preservation of the truth;

the promotion of social righteousness; and

the exhibition of the Kingdom of Heaven to the world.

CALL TO OFFERING / OFFERTORY

The Solid Rock

William Bradbury

*RESPONSE HYMN 592 (*Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*)

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION (*Unison*)

Lord of all that is good and right, you have blessed us immeasurably with time, love and providence. Fill us with a generous and kind spirit, so we might share our gifts with everyone in our neighborhood. Receive these gifts today and

**bless them for your work in our neighborhood and the world.
Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION AND SUPPLICATION/LORD'S PRAYER (*sins*)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

WE ENTER THE WORLD AS GOD'S PEOPLE

*HYMN 538

Lord, Dismiss Us with Thy Blessing

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE (*Unison; Hymn 432*)

Song of Hope

May the God of hope go with us every day,
Filling all our lives with love and joy and peace.
May the God of justice speed us on our way,
Bringing light and hope to every land and race.
Praying, let us work for peace,
Singing, share our joy with all,
Working for a world that's new,
Faithful when we hear Christ's call.

*Please remain standing as the Light of Christ
is carried into the world.*

POSTLUDE

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

John Zundel

We Welcome Ruling Elder Sam Ewing to our pulpit today.

Liturgist: Geoff Goll

Light-Bearer: Mark Smith

Head Ushers: Wanda Navoyosky, Sandy Quinn

Bulletins have been given by Tim and Melissa Costa commemorating the signing of the Declaration of Independence in 1776 and celebration of America's nationhood.

Flowers have been given by Alice Jackson in honor of Whitney Bodnar's birthday, and by Tim and Melissa Costa commemorating the signing of the Declaration of Independence in 1776 and celebration of America's nationhood.

These Days Presbyterian devotionals are available at the east and west Sanctuary entrances.

The Summer Concert Series will be held at Waterworth Park tonight at 6:00 p.m. featuring the Salem Quaker City Band – *Happy Birthday America*. Admission is free and attendees are reminded to bring lawn chairs. A vendor is available to purchase food and soft drinks.

Limited Deacon Scholarship Funds are available for students from our church who are enrolled in College or University and who have not previously received Deacon assistance. Scholarship Applications are available in the Church Office and need to be returned to the Church Office by this Tuesday, June 30.

America Remembers, a USO Style Variety Show featuring Dave Banks Big Band, will be this Wednesday, July 1 from 7:00-9:00 p.m. at the Salem High School Auditorium. This FREE CONCERT is sponsored by Salem High School Alumni Association.

The Church Office will be closed this Friday, July 3 for the July 4 holiday and will also be closed on Fridays, July 10, 17, 24, and 31.

Café Justo's great Organic Coffee will be for sale next Sunday in Fellowship Hall during Coffee Hour. Cost is \$15 for a 1-pound bag of Regular or Whole Bean Coffee. Sales are always on the first Sunday of the month.

All Hands on Deck for the 2026 Denise's Big Back Yard Events!

An exciting time under the big tent with the addition of picnic tables this summer for our weekly picnics! Our first gathering will be on **Wednesday, July 8 from 6:00-8:00 p.m.** There will also be the addition of an Ice Cream Cart provided after the program each week about 7:15 p.m. Come join us for food, fun, and fellowship! Wednesday Dates and Programs are listed below.

- July 8** Vacation Bible School (*Christian Education*)
- July 15** Bike/Scooter Safety (*Mission I and S*)
- July 22** Jan Cox and Friends (*Worship, Music, and Arts*)
- July 29** Magician (*Preschool Board*)
- August 5** Salem Library – STEM (*Property and Maintenance*)
- August 12** COH, Skits, Games (*Scouts*)

The First Presbyterian Church Preschool is now accepting students for the 2026-2027 school year. The five day a week program combines the very best elements of a Preschool for 3-, 4-, and 5-year-old children. The Preschool staff are dedicated to maintaining a positive, nurturing environment promoting creativity, curiosity, and kindness. Our Preschool follows a Christian theme and participates in Ohio's "Step Up to Quality" system. We have an Early Childhood degreed teacher and experienced staff. Financial assistance is available through Job and Family Services for those qualifying. Children will develop skills needed for kindergarten readiness. Call 330-332-8620 for more information.

Vision Statement

*To glorify God and share the Spirit and love of Christ
with our community and the world.*

Compassion Has No Bounds

JEEWAN RAKSHA KENDRA (LIFE SAVING CENTER)

Sita's Story:

Sita lives in a remote village in Far Western Nepal. She became pregnant as a teenager, her lack of protein and health knowledge put her baby's life at risk. Now because of *Jeewan Raksha Kendra*, her family now uses better seeds to grow more potatoes, providing more food and extra income. A new greenhouse in her village ensures they have fresh vegetables all year long. Soon, her child will eat healthy meals and eggs at school to stay strong and focused in class. This will help Sita's child to learn better in school, her family to have a better income, and for her children to have a brighter future.

The Problem:

In Sudurpashchim Nepal, the statistics tell a devastating story. The region currently records the highest child mortality rates in Nepal: In Dadeldhura and Baitadi, inadequate nutrition and low crop yields lead to chronic hunger, creating barriers to children's growth and development. Geographic isolation with a nearby clinic, often being a several-hour trek, as well as low maternal literacy and adolescent pregnancy can result in illness and death of infants and young children.

How You Can Help:

Your support allows them to expand their greenhouse initiatives, provide more protein-rich meals, and reach the most isolated families in Far Western Nepal. This is your opportunity to share God's love with a broken world! Make checks out to First Presbyterian Church and write 'Nepal' on memo line.

"By improving nutrition today, we are securing the leadership and health of the community tomorrow."

Tuesday, June 30

9:30 Holy Yoga (Fellowship Hall)

Thursday, July 2

9:30 Holy Yoga (Fellowship Hall)

7:00 Property and Maintenance (Library)

Friday, July 3

Church Office Closed for July 4th Holiday

Sunday, July 5

9:00 Church School for Adults (Library)

10:00 Coffee Hour (Fellowship Hall) – *Worship, Music, and the Arts*

10:30 Service of Worship (S) – *Western Reserve Brass Quintet*

2:00 Bridal Shower (Fellowship Hall)

Tuesday, July 7

9:30 Holy Yoga (Fellowship Hall)

Wednesday, July 8

6:00 Denise's Big Back Yard – *Vacation Bible School*

Thursday, July 9

9:30 Holy Yoga (Fellowship Hall)

Friday, July 10

Church Office Closed

Pastor..... Rev. Annie Parker, 330-720-5884
pastorannie@fpcsaalem.org; Office Hours: Tues./Weds., 10-3
Clerk of Session..... Barbara Loudon, bloudon@neo.rr.com
Director of Music John Krauss, wjohnkrauss@gmail.com
Dir. Handbells/Youth Choirs Cheryl McDevitt, chermcd@aol.com
Organist Jan Cox, Jansalem1@yahoo.com
Audio/Video Tylor Bricker, Bob and Susan Merry
Administrative Secretary Phyllis Garlock, phyllis@fpcsaalem.org
Financial Assistant Mary Banar, office@fpcsaalem.org
Custodian Ed Tonkinson, mtonkinson@sbcglobal.net